Nothing will go on record. ...(*Interruptions*)...Please go back to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:*

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN:*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Narayanasamy, please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will allow you. ...(*Interruptions*)... You please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will allow you during Zero Hour. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... During Zero Hour, I will allow you. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please go to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, if you will allow me to raise this matter in Zero Hour, we will keep quiet. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 561.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Revival of sick PSEs by BRPSE

*561. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) is responsible for the revival of sick PSEs;

(b) if so, how many PSEs have been revived during the last three years;

(c) whether any time-bound programme is in place to revive the ailing units;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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*Not recorded.

Statement

(a) Government had constituted Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) in December, 2004 as a part-time advisory body to advise the Government on the strategies, measures and schemes related to the strengthening, modernization, reviving and restructuring of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs).

(b) Based on the recommendations of BRPSE, Government have approved the proposals for revival of 25 cases of CPSEs through revival package/Joint venture/disinvestment/merger and closure of one CPSE involving total assistance of Rs. 7660 crores in the form of fresh infusion of funds, waivers/write offs, etc. In addition, Government have also approved revival package for Nagaland Pulp & Paper Co. Ltd. envisaging total assistance of Rs. 788 crores from Government in the form of fresh infusion of funds, waivers/write offs, etc.

(c) to (e) The administrative ministries/departments prepare a comprehensive package for revival/rehabilitation or closure of loss making CPSEs after due consultations with all stakeholders. The administrative ministries/departments process the recommendations of BRPSE for obtaining the approval of the Government. The decisions of the Government on the revival or otherwise of the sick CPSEs are implemented by the concerned administrative ministries/departments. The concerned ministries/departments have been advised to expedite submission of the proposals in respect of the sick CPSEs under their control for consideration of BRPSE. BRPSE has also been advised to expedite their recommendations in respect of the proposals pending with them. The concerned administrative ministries/departments have further been advised to process the recommendations of BRPSE expeditiously for obtaining the approval of the Government.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, there seems to be a lot of confusion on the issue of disinvestment in this country. I read in the newspapers that the Prime Minister has gone on record saying that the disinvestment issue has been kept on board. And, when Neyveli Lignite was about to be disinvested, a Cabinet decision was taken and you have withdrawn the disinvestment. Yesterday, you disinvested in Suzki-Maruti. So, what is the policy of the Government?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, this question is about revival of sick PSEs. It has nothing to do with disinvestment.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: So, should I go exactly on the same lines?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: No; no. If the hon. Chairman allows, I am ready to answer it. I can answer that also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, he is right.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: In what way is it irrelevant to the disinvestment in the country? I want to know about the entire policy of disinvestment.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: No; no. It is up to the Chairman. If he says that you answer, I will answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The supplementary should be related to the question.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: But, Sir, how come it is unrelated to the issue? ...(*Interruptions*)... Is it that I have lost my prudence? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is beyond the scope of the question.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: It is totally related to the disinvestment policy.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You put your second supplementary.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, my second supplementary is this. But I still consider it as my first supplementary and I forgo the second supplementary. The Government policy is that the sale proceeds of the disinvestment will not be... Now, since you are very particular that the supplementary should be within the very scope of the main question, I would not talk about these things. the BIFR is being disbanded and the Company Law Board will take care of the sick units. This particular Board will also take care of the sick public sector undertakings which are in question. The disbandment of the BIFR has been stayed by the court. How would the units which have become sick be revived? I would like to know whether these units would be referred to the BIFR or they would be referred to the Company Law Board. Virtually, the BIFR is in limbo. What exactly the Government is going to do with the sick units in the private sector?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is enough.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, the BIFR was supposed to be closed. But, unfortunately, there has been a Supreme Court intervention in this decision, and, hence, the work of the BIFR has not been stopped it is continuing. The replacement of the BIFR by another Act is not there. The BIFR is doing its duty and, without its permission, on those cases which are under the BIFR, the BRPSE cannot take a decision. The Board of Reconstruction takes decision only in those cases which are not in the BIFR. But their recommendation goes to the BIFR. In many of the cases, the BIFR agrees, and thereby those companies, which are recommended by BRPSE and accepted by the BIFR, are being revitalised. It is being done even in his State in Andhra.

श्री के० बी० शणप्पा: Curkunta Cement Corporation of India को 2004 में BRPSE के तहत भेजा गया था, जो कि गुलबर्गा ज़िले में एक बहुत बड़ी कम्पनी थी। It was a public undertaking. It was a cement industry. तकरीबन 20 साल तक चलने के बाद इस कम्पनी के बोर्ड आफ डायरेक्टर्स ने इसको close down किया। उनका कहना यह था कि इसमें प्रॉफिट नहीं था। 500 टन की यह कम्पनी थीं गुलबर्गा जिला सीमेंट कम्पनी का बहुत बड़ा स्टॉक है — ACC सीमेंट है, वासुदत्ता सीमेंट है, राजेश्वरी सीमेंट्स है, Curkunta सीमेंट है। सीमेंट का वहां पर भरमार रहता है, लेकिन CCI द्वारा इसको, — because of wrong management— बंद किया गया। मैं सरकार से पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या sick industry की लिस्ट में इसका नाम है? अगर इसका नाम है तो अगर कोई दूसरी कम्पनी वाले इसको लेने के लिए तैयार हों तो आप उसको कंसैशन देकर क्या इसे देना चाहते हैं, because nearly 600 workmen were working there? तो जैसी परिस्थिति है, क्या आप इस कम्पनी को, अगर कोई ऐसा प्रापोज़ल लेकर आया कि हम इसे चलाएंगे, उनको देने के लिए तैयार हैं?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, we are willing to sell this company, but. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री वी० हनुमंत राव: आपको दे देते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री के० बी० शणप्पा: हम ले लेंगे if they are prepared to give it. ...(*Interruptions*)... हनुमंत राव साहब, अगर कोई तैयार नहीं है तो हम ले लेंगे। ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: You are getting your answer. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, he is ready to listen to the answer. But one of your party Members, sitting there, responded to your answer. ...(*Interruptions*)... That is not fair. ...(*Interruptions*)... That is not fair. ...(*Interruptions*)...हनुमंत राव बोले कि आपको दे देंगे। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is over. Let him speak. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: He should not respond for the Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't take it seriously. ...(*Interruptions*)... बैठिए, बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I am sorry. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Why did he speak? ...(*Interruptions*)... यह क्या तरीका है? ...(व्यवधान)... या तो उनको मंत्री बना दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: बस, हो गया। ...(व्यवधान)... कह दिया। ...(व्यवधान)... बैठिए, बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... Mr. Pany, please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... Nothing will go on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please take your seat. ...(Interruptions)... हो गया, कह दिया, your leader has objected to it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: This is a very good question, I would answer it to your satisfaction. It has been decided to close some of the cement companies; others would be operated by the Cement Corporation of India. The closed company that you have mentioned would also be sold. The money that would be generated would be reinvested in this new one. In case any company wants to buy and run it, we have no objection. Some companies have already come forward. One company from Andhra came yesterday only and its representatives met me. We would come to a decision only after the Labour commission decides upon the matter. Right Now, the decision is pending with the Labour Court.

PROF. P.J. KUREIN: Sir, the hon. Minister has said that in 25 CPSEs revival packages have been proposed. That means, at least 25 companies are sick and making huge losses. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether in such companies, before initiating a revival package, an audit or study has been conducted to ascertain the reasons as to why these industries have become sick and making such huge losses. It could

be because of the wrong policies of the Government, faulty implementation of the policies, technological obsolesence or even non-cooperation of the labour. Have you conducted a study and fixed responsibility? If responsibility has been fixed, what action are you taking on that before spending money from the Exchequer? Further, if action has been taken and study has been conducted, I would like to know the details.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, all public sector companies are audited by the CAG. The CAG gives its report, which is tabled in the House, discussions are held and if anybody is found guilty, he or she is punished.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Please let me know how many people are punished.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: No, I don't have the figures for the number of people who have been punished; that would take a long time. But I would give those details in due course.

After Shri Chidambaram declared the formation of the BRPSE in 2004 Budget Speech, we had asked our administrative department which were the companies that could be revived. Seventy-five applications came in; out of 75, 57 were short-listed and 43 cases were sent to the BRPSE. Out of these 43, 27 are said to have revived. There are others in the pipeline which would also be revived.

The hon. Finance Minister, despite his bad days...

AN HON. MEMBER: His bad days or our bad days?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: People say that he does not pay. I must compliment him because, for reviving these 43 companies, he had given cash assistance of Rs. 1,951.10 crores and non-cash assistance of Rs. 5798.44 crores. The UPA Government is taking all care to see to it that nothing undue is done and the sick industries are revived. I am glad to say that in West Bengal, nine companies that have been revived, have been paying for their own salaries; now they do not approach the Government for payment of salaries.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, I had put an important question; how many people have been punished for dereliction of duty and for wrongdoings?

MR CHAIRMAN: He will have to go through the papers.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I will send the list to you. There is one from Kerala (*Interruptions*)

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in part (b) of his reply that Government has approved the proposals for revival of 25 cases of CPSEs through revival package/joint venture/disinvestment/merger and closure, etc. The hon. Minister should have spelt it out clearly in his reply—since the question was very specific—as to how many PSEs were revived exactly. I would like to impress upon the hon. Minister that time is the essence for revival. But here, in this process, a lot of time has been spent in arriving at a decision, unnecessarily. The BHEL had sent a proposal for taking over the Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels more than three months ago; it is still hanging fire.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, what is your question? Please, come to the question.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, I am just completing it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, Please come to your question.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: I want details from the Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only the question. Nothing else except the question.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: In the case of the Burn & Standard Company, the finalisation of the revival package is linked with the settlement of a dispute with an international company. In these ways, the things are being delayed. My submission to the Minister is: There are many sick CPSEs under his Ministry and these sick CPSEs can be merged with other CPSE in the same Ministry or by that process many of them can be revived like BHPVL and Instrumentation Limited. Will the hon. Minister kindly consider that option also?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, as regards the Andhra company, due diligence has been shown by BHEL. We have accepted their consideration and the Cabinet has also approved and this will be taken over by our BHEL because it needs the small boiler for super-critical production which is coming in the country to overcome this power phases. As regards the Braithwaite, as there is an international case, in this case there is a judgement agaisnt us. An arbitrator has been appointed by the Supreme Court. He has given some judgement. Now, we and ONGC

combindly are going before the Cabinet to pay that money and after that that will also be revived.

श्री रूद्रनारायण पाणि: धन्यवाद सभापति महोदय, भारी उद्योग और लोक उद्यम मंत्री सरकार के एक भारी वेट वाले मंत्री है।

श्री सभापति: आप भी कम नहीं है।

श्री रूद्रनारायण पाणि: महोदय, वे पूर्वोत्तर राज्य से आ रहे हैं। उनकों मैं धन्यवाद देता हूं कि नागा राज्य में टुली में जो कारखाना है उसको 788 करोड़ दिया है। जब संतोष मोहन देव जी इस्पात मंत्री थे तब उड़ीसा के राउरकेला स्टील प्लांट के पुररुद्धार के लिए नाम भी कमाया है और बदनाम भी कमाया है। क्या मंत्री महोदय को यह पता है कि उनके ही मंत्रिमंडल के साथी सहयोगी रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री बार-बार यह राजनीतिक बयान देते हैं या कैसा बयान देते हैं कि उड़ीसा में फर्टिलाइजर कारपोरेशन आफ इंडिया एफ॰सी॰आई॰ के तालचेर में जो कारखाना बरबाद हो गया है बंद हो गया है, अभी वहां आगजनी भी हुआ था, तो क्या मंत्री महोदय को पता है कि उड़ीसा के तालचेर स्थित कारखाना को जैसे कि उर्वरक मंत्री बताते हैं कि उसको पुन: चालू किया जाएगा। अत: इसको जल्दी चालू किया जाए क्योंकि वह तो पूरा बरबाद हो गया है।

श्री सभापति: आपका क्वेश्चन पूरा हो गया है।

श्री रूद्रनारायण पाणि: महोदय, कब चालू किया जाएगा, कैसे चालू किया जाएगा,यह भारी उद्योग और लोक उद्यम मंत्री कृपा करके बताएं?

श्री सभापति: इसको कब चालू करेंगे?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, he raised two points. One is about Nagaland. When our Government came, a delegation from Nagaland came and said that the then Prime Minister, Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee assured in a public meeting that this paper mill will be revitalized. I with that proposal went to the Finance Minister as well as to the Prime Minister. They said that they would keep the words of the outgoing hon. Prime Minister. Accordingly, this mill will be revitalized. Scheme has been approved by the Government and the Hindustan Paper Corporation has been asked to submit their plan and programmes for revitalization. As regards his other question regarding fertilizers, I do not deal with fertilizer. If you want, I will send the details later on.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that the total assistance of Rs. 7760 crores is in the form of fresh

inclusion of funds. Along with that, there are lot of waivers, write offs, and selling of valuable land. I don't know whether the hon. Minister can give all those details right now. But specifically speaking about HMT, how much fund the Government is giving; how much land have they allowed and then will there be an accountability because this fund will also go down the drain? Finally, Sir, the ancillary units, which are there in HMT, are all small units which have been developed because of HMT. Now when HMT went into sickness, they are also in trouble. They want that the land should be given on priority at the market value as occupied industrial land. Will the hon. Minister consider that?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, HMT land in Bangalore has been sold in a transparent manner. Open bid was called. Representatives of banks, representatives of IDBI, representatives of State Government, Chief Secretary, Revenue Secretary, etc., all were there. Money had been deposited by the buyers. After that, there was litigation. So, we are looking into it. As far as ancillary industries are concerned, the Standing Committee should recommend. Once this report comes, we shall speak to the appropriate authority, but there is little chance because land which will be sold, will be given to those persons who has already purchased it, but we may persuade them to give some part of it to the ancillaries.

New airports and training centres in NER

*562. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has approved six new airports in the North Eastern Region including the BTAD area of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry will contemplate policy to set up new institutes or training centres in some unused old airports including Rupsi of Assam on the lines of Pilot Training Centre, Ground Engineering Institute or Air Hostess Training Centre etc.;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?